

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00012 051100Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W

-----073858 051103Z /13

R 050736Z JAN 78

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5443

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 0012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, XF, IZ

SUBJECT: IRAQI VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND HORN OF
AFRICA

REF: STOCKHOLM 5304 (NOTAL)

1. SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING
NEW SWEDISH AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE ON HIS VISIT TO BAGHDAD
HAVE BRIEFED USINT ON THEIR RECENT TALKS WITH MINISTER
OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAMID ALWAN. ADDRESSEES
WILL NOTE THAT ALWAN'S REPORTED VIEWS DIFFER IN IMPORTANT
RESPECTS FROM WHAT IS GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD AS IRAQI POLICY.

2. ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE: ALWAN SAID THAT IRAQ WOULD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00012 051100Z

ACCEPT ESTABLISHMENT OF A PALESTINIAN STATE ON THE WEST
BANK IF IT MET WITH UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT OF PLO EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE. (COMMENT: SINCE "UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT" WOULD
REQUIRE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE BY IRAQI-CONTROLLED ALF, THIS
SOFTENING OF TRADITIONAL IRAQI OPPOSITION TO SOLUTIONS
WHICH ACCEPT EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL AS ZIONIST STATE MAY BE
MORE APPARENT THAN REAL.)

3. SYRIA: ALWAN INDICATED IRAQ WAS SEEKING TO END ITS RIFT WITH SYRIA BY INVITING DAMASCUS REGIME TO COME TO CONFRONTATION AND STEADFASTNESS CONFERENCE IN BAGHDAD. NONETHELESS, HE REITERATED OPPOSITION TO ASAD GOVERNMENT AS AN ILLEGITIMATE MILITARY REGIME WHICH HAD USURPED POWER FROM REAL BAATH PARTY MEMBERS AND HAD GONE ON TO ACCEPT UNSC RESOLUTION 338 (COMMENT: SWEDES FOUND THIS CONCILIATORY, BUT WE DOUBT IT WOULD BE READ THAT WAY IN DAMASCUS.)

4. EGYPT: ALWAN REGRETTED SADAT INITIATIVES, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS DOOMED TO FAILURE, BUT DID NOT USE TERMS OF INVECTIVE. PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY IRAQI SPOKESMEN AND MEDIA COVERAGE CONTINUE TO SCORN SADAT AS A TRAITOR.

5. HOR: ALWAN CLAIMED THAT RECENT HIGH LEVEL ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION CAME AT IRAQI INITIATIVE AND WAS PART OF IRAQI EFFORT TO MEDIATE ETHIOPIA'S DISPUTES WITH SOMALIS AND ERITREANS. (COMMENT: OFFICIAL IRAQI STATEMENTS AT TIME OF MANSUITTA DESTA VISIT STRESSED THAT VISIT WAS AT ETHIOPIA'S REQUEST. WE SUSPECT, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIETS MAY HOPE TO DRAW IRAQ INTO MEDIATORY ROLE.) ALWAN SAID IRAQIS TOLD DESTA THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS FOLLOWING POLICIES OF SELASSE REGIME. DESTA REPORTEDLY INDICATED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BAGHDA 00012 051100Z

WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER AUTONOMY FOR ERITREA BUT NOT FOR OGADEN. ALWAN TOLD SWEDES THAT IRAQ CONSIDERED OGADEN A PART OF SOMALIA WHICH COLONIALIST POWERS HAD WRONGLY JOINED TO ETHIOPIA.

6. BILATERAL: IRAQIS GAVE CONFLICTING SIGNALS. MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY SAID SWEDES MUST BUY MORE IRAQI CRUDE IF IT WANTED TO KEEP EXPORTING TO IRAQ AT PRESENT LEVEL. MINISTER OF TRADE SAW NO PROBLEM IN TRADE IMBALANCE.

7. COMMENT: ALWAN IS WELL-CONNECTED BAATH PARTY MEMBER WHO IS CLOSE TO SADDAM HUSSEIN AND GENERALLY THOUGHT TO HAVE MORE POLICY INFLUENCE THAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI. ALWAN IS NOT, HOWEVER, SUCH A CAREFUL MOUTHPIECE FOR REGIME POLICY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF HIS REMARKS REFLECT PERSONAL VIEWS AND THAT HE WAS ALSO FOLLOWING COMMON ARAB PRACTICE OF TELLING PEOPLE WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR. SWEDES APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH MODERATION OF IRAQI POSITIONS GIVEN ABOVE.

PECK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACIONS, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAGHDA00012
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780008-0343
Format: TEL
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780199/aaaadeyj.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 87da8be6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STOCKHOLM 5304
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3827212
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND HORN OF AFRICA
TAGS: PGOV, XF, IZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/87da8be6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014